



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION



Tim Gallagher, Director

August 3, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVAL OF AN APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT  
FOR LAND ACQUISITION PROJECTS IN NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
(C.P. NOS. 69267, 69268 & 69269)  
(Fifth District, 4-Vote Matter)**

**JOINT RECOMMENDATION WITH THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER THAT  
YOUR BOARD:**

- 1 Find this action exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act; and
2. Approve the attached appropriation adjustment to establish capital projects and provide appropriation to fund the acquisition of tax-defaulted properties as follows:

Butte Valley Wildflower Sanctuary, Land Acquisition (C.P. No. 69268) in the amount of \$10,000 funded by the Regional Park and Open Space District;

- Pearblossom Natural Area, Land Acquisition (C.P. No. 69269) in the amount of \$67,000 funded by Regional Park and Open Space District;

North County OHV Site Acquisition and Feasibility Study (C.P. No. 69267) in the amount of \$1,398,000 funded by the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Green Sticker Fund.

**PURPOSE OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS/JUSTIFICATION**

The recommended actions will appropriate funding for the acquisition of real property through Chapter 8 Agreements with the Treasurer and Tax Collector, as recommended in a related item on today's agenda. The proposed acquisitions will protect three sites in the Antelope Valley from future development and have been selected for their potential natural and recreational values. The proposed acquisitions include:

- 2.05 acres contiguous to the Butte Valley Wildflower Sanctuary, a 320-acre natural area located in Hi Vista along Avenue I between 190<sup>th</sup> and 200<sup>th</sup> Streets, East (see Attachment B);
- 116.86 acres of natural lands north of the Devil's Punchbowl Natural Area in Pearblossom (see Attachment C); and

650.28 acres north of Acton and south of Palmdale that will be acquired as open space and for possible use as an OHV area in the future, pending completion of environmental and feasibility studies (see Attachment D).

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended actions meet the County's Strategic Plan Goals of Fiscal Responsibility and Community Service through the purchase of land currently in default on property taxes for the purposes of expanding open space and recreational opportunities to the residents of unincorporated Los Angeles County.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Upon approval of the attached appropriation adjustment, sufficient funds will be included in the Department's Fiscal Year 2004-05 Capital Projects/Refurbishment Budget to complete the acquisition of the sites through the Section 8 Agreement process.

The recommended appropriations and revenue for the three acquisitions are as follows:

Butte Valley Wildflower Sanctuary, Land Acquisition (C.P. No. 69268): \$10,000 to be funded by the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 Per Parcel and Specified Funds that are remaining from completed projects in the Fifth Supervisorial District;

Pearblossom Natural Area, Land Acquisition (C.P. No. 69269): \$67,000 funded by Regional Park and Open Space District Excess Funds available for grants to the County in the Fifth Supervisorial District; and

- North County OHV Site, Land Acquisition and Development (C.P. No. 69267) \$1,398,000, including \$1,198,000 for land acquisition and \$200,000 to prepare feasibility studies and environmental documentation, funded by the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Green Sticker Fund (Fund CN7).

**Operating Budget Impact**

Potential one-time and ongoing operating impacts are unknown at this time, but are anticipated to be minimal from the acquisition of the property. The Department will work with the Chief Administrative Office to identify any operational requirements and available funding prior to completion of the acquisition process.

**FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

As a separate item on today's agenda, the Treasurer and Tax Collector is recommending approval of the Section 8 agreements that will result in the acquisition of the properties.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

The acquisitions and feasibility study projects are exempt from CEQA according to Sections 15306 and 15316 and Classes 6 and 16 of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES OR PROJECTS**

The recommended actions will have no impact on any other services or projects currently underway or planned.

**CONCLUSION**

Please return one conformed copy of this action to the Chief Administrative Office, Capital Projects Division, and the Auditor-Controller, and return three conformed copies to the Department of Parks and Recreation for distribution.

Sincerely,

  
For Tim Gallagher  
Director

David E. Janssen  
Chief Administrative Officer

KW

Attachments (4)

c: Executive Office  
Chief Administrative Office  
Auditor-Controller  
Treasurer and Tax Collector